

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 9th June 1900.

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I—FOREIGN POLITICS.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 28th May writes as follows in continuation of what he wrote in a previous issue (*vide* Report on Native Papers for 2nd June, paragraph 2) with reference to the German Embassy:—

The German Embassy in Persia and the *Hablul Mateen* newspaper.

HABLUL MATEEN,
May 28th, 1900.

Persian.—Of course you are right, but I beg you to write a few lines on the subject to the Foreign Minister. If I be unsuccessful no harm will attach to you.

Amb.—It is strange you are requesting me to help you in a way which, according to your statement, is impracticable.

Persian.—But as I know the ins-and-outs of the affair, I am sure that I shall be successful.

Amb.—I cannot understand you. I can permit you to proceed with the work if you can assure me of your success.

Persian.—That I cannot before the work is done.

Amb.—Let me tell you that you take me for the Foreign Minister and speak to me as you would speak to him. If you can answer me, rest assured that you will be successful in your design; otherwise not.

Persian.—Yes; please give me the letter with which I am to go to the Foreign Minister. I will see him privately and tell him all about the affair.

Amb.—What will you do after giving the letter?

Persian.—I shall tell the Foreign Minister that the German Ambassador says that for the sake of the friendship which exists between Germany and Persia, you ought to drive away that fellow and that paper.

Amb.—If you are asked what you mean "by that fellow" and "that paper?"

Persian.—I shall answer that I mean———and the *Hablul Mateen* which defamed the German Embassy.

Amb.—The Foreign Minister may say that in every civilised country there are papers which deal with current politics, but no one complains of their writings. The same thing may be said of the paper *Hablul Mateen*, which is edited by a Persian *alim*.

Persian.—Then I will tell him that the German Ambassador is very angry with the paper. If you do not help him in the matter, he himself will try to proscribe it in Persia.

Amb.—The Foreign Minister will say that that matters very little. It is the duty of political papers to criticise the actions of this or that Government, but no one intends to do them mischief. Some German papers wrote against the present Shah, and also against the Prime Ministers of Persia, when they heard that he interviewed the widow of the late Shah, but no one got angry with them. The European press condemned the peace proposal of the Czar. It also criticised the Dreyfus case, the Muscat question, and the Fashoda question, but no one thought of proscribing any paper. Moreover, if you try to proscribe that paper, it will become more popular in Persia than it is now.

2. The *Bangabandhu* [Chandernagore] of the 2nd June writes as follows:—

England in the Transvaal war.

England has fought many battles and conquered many countries, but she had never before to fight so hard as in the Transvaal war. In Europe she had to fight powerful enemies, but she had never to incur so much loss of men and money there. It is a year since the Transvaal war was declared. Copious blood has been shed, thousands of wives have been widowed, but still the war is not over. We have heard of the war between Ram and Ravan and also of the Kurukshetra war. But the first war was finished in six months and the second in eighteen days.

But President Kruger is still resolute. Old as he is, he has not been overcome by the loss and dangers which have befallen him. With unflinching courage he is still resisting the British. He contradicts the rumour that he made a proposal of peace; and says that he will never yield. He may be taken prisoner and exiled to St. Helena, but he will never make peace with England at the cost of the independence of the Transvaal.

BANGABANDHU,
June 2nd, 1900.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 30th, 1900.

3. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 30th May complains that theft has become pretty frequent of late in Jejur, a village in the Hooghly district. Theft has lately been committed in three places, but the offenders have not as yet been traced.

RANGPUR DIK-
PRAKASH,
May 31st, 1900.

4. The *Rangpur Dikprakash* [Kakina, Rangpur] of the 31st May complains that the two roads to Rangpur from Abalia *via* Gangachar and from Mahipur *via* Burirhat, are infested with robbers. Pedlars and hawkers no longer dare to pass through these roads, and are compelled to travel by railway. The authorities do not believe this to be true, because no complaint was ever made to them by anyone. On the 23rd of May last one Janjalu Das, of Kakina Bazar, was going to Rangpur with some money, when he was waylaid by *badmashes*, who not only robbed him of everything, but also broke his skull. Janjalu succeeded in wounding one of the robbers. It is very strange that his carters went away without a scratch on their bodies, and many people suspect that they were in collusion with the robbers. The police is requested to make a thorough investigation.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 4th, 1900.

5. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 4th June fails to understand why Europeans shoot wild animals in the forest in Brindaban in contravention of the law. This practice is certainly very shocking to a Hindu. Even during the Musalman rule, no Musalman dared to hunt a wild animal in that sacred place.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

CHARU MIHIR,
May 29th, 1900.

6. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 29th May has the following with reference to the case of Bhawal Dasi:—
The acquittal of Bhawal Dasi. There is no doubt that the public will be satisfied with the just decision of the High Court in this case. The women of this country do not hesitate to lay down their lives for the protection of their honour. It is, therefore, quite natural that in the absence of any other means of protecting her chastity, a chaste woman should murder her assailant.

CHARU MIHIR.

7. The same paper has the following:—
The Munda trial. The Mundas are now being tried at Ranchi. The mysteries brought to light by Mr. Jacob, Counsel for some of the accused, are such as to make one doubt whether Chota Nagpur is really within the pale of British rule. Two hundred and seventeen persons are rotting in *hajat*, being charged under sections 107, 108, 109, and 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code. They had not even been informed of the offence with which they were charged. It is not on record that they have been brought before the Court within these five months. Mr. Jacob brought all these irregularities to the notice of the Court, and wanted the release of some of the accused on bail. The police at once asked the Magistrate to cancel the former charges against some of the prisoners and charge them with murder and other serious offences, and also wanted one day's time to see whether these charges could stand against the rest of the prisoners. We are astonished to see that so many people can be kept confined in a jail, under the British rule, only on suspicion. This clearly proves the evils of uniting the judicial and executive functions.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
May 30th, 1900.

8. The *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 30th May says that owing to an increase in the number of suits, the small Court rooms of the Munsifs in Barisal are overcrowded, to the great inconvenience of the Munsifs and the parties. This inconvenience may be removed if the parties to the cases, which are to be postponed, are told to go away at the first sitting of the Courts. Babu Tarapada Chatterji, the late sixth Munsif of Barisal, followed this practice, and thereby earned the good will of both the parties and their pleaders.

9. The same paper says that the Court of Babu Upendranath Majumdar, the senior Deputy Magistrate of Barisal, remains crowded during the greater portion of the day, but there is no *punkha* there, except the one over the Deputy Magistrate's seat, and consequently the parties and their pleaders have to suffer from excessive heat. The authorities are requested to remove the inconvenience as soon as possible.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
May 30th, 1900.

10. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 31st May is glad to see Bhawal Dasi, who was tried on the charge of killing the man who had attempted to outrage her modesty, acquitted by the Calcutta High Court.

SANJIVANI,
May 31st, 1900.

11. The same paper has the following:—

The morning sittings of the Allahabad High Court. From the 1st of May the Allahabad High Court is sitting from 7 A.M. to 12 noon, thereby causing much inconvenience to the pleaders and suitors. This is unprecedented in the annals of the Allahabad High Court since its establishment. The pleaders have to come at six in the morning and go home at one in the afternoon. The clerks also suffer a great deal, many of them having to remain in court till 4 P.M., without taking refreshments, because they are unable to go home in the scorching heat. We hear that the Court is being held in the morning for the convenience of one of the Hon'ble Judges. But the convenience of so many people ought not to be sacrificed for the sake of the convenience of one.

SANJIVANI.

12. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Nowgong, Assam, says that on the 12th May last a suit, which was on the file of a munsif of Nowgong, and in which a *parda-mashin* lady was the plaintiff and a pleader was defendant, was called on for hearing. But neither the complainant nor her pleader, nor the defendant, was present in court; and still the Munsif decreed the suit in favour of the plaintiff. This disregard of the law attracted public notice, and it is known that the plaintiff is the wife of another local Munsif, who carries on *benami* money transactions in the name of his wife and children. The public suspect that this curious decision of the Munsif is owing to the influence of his brother officer. This is, indeed, a serious allegation. According to the orders of the Government, no judicial officer can carry on any trade or profession within his own jurisdiction. But this Munsif has been doing money-lending work within the limits of his jurisdiction for the last three years. The Chief Commissioner of Assam is requested to enquire into the matter.

SANJIVANI.

13. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st June writes that Maulvi Bazlal Karim, Deputy Magistrate, Sealdah, conducted himself discourteously towards some respectable native female passengers and their male relatives at the Howrah Station. The Deputy Magistrate will be put to trouble if he does not soon mend his manners. In the mufassal there are Deputy Magistrates who consider themselves very big. It is highly necessary to teach them a lesson. It is said that legal proceedings will be soon instituted against the Maulvi. It will be extremely desirable to prosecute this Maulvi for the good of the country and the railway passengers.

HITAVADI,
June 1st, 1900.

14. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 1st June contradicts the statement made by the local fortnightly that the Manager of the *Sanjay* Press had expressed his intention of suing the District Magistrate for the cost of some printing work done by the press under the orders of that official. The statement, which is perfectly baseless, has been doubtless made for the purpose of accounting for the severe strictures which the *Sanjay* newspaper has passed on Mr. K. C. De's administration of the district. It is true that some money was due to the *Sanjay* Press by the Collector as the cost of printing certain official forms, and that he made the payment after long delay and at his pleasure. The charge made by the Manager of the *Sanjay* Press, was not unfair, and he could not reasonably be held responsible for the adverse criticism of the Magistrate's doings, which appeared in the *Sanjay* newspaper. Nothing could be a matter of greater regret if the Manager had really incurred the Magistrate's

SANJAY,
June 1st, 1900.

displeasure on that account. So far as this matter is concerned, there is no reason why there should be any ill-feeling between them. Even if there be any, it is extremely improper to give expression to it in a newspaper. Of course, the order passed by Mr. De prohibiting the public offices in the district from favouring the Sanjay Press with requisitions for printing official forms, shows that he is angry with the Manager of that press. The Sanjay Press turns out excellent work, and is willing to undergo a trial. It is not proper to bring a false charge against it, and give it a bad name. There is another complaint that should be made in this connection. The practice of inviting tenders for the execution of the District Board's printing work has been discontinued, with the result that the Board is being subjected to loss on this account. Mr. De is so much offended with the Sanjay Press, that even high and responsible official subordinates of his are required to consult him as to the press to which an order for printing work should be given. When he is interfering even in such petty matters, what is there to show that he will not interfere in larger and more serious matters like the administration of justice, &c.? Certainly it does not behove Mr. De to treat the Deputy and Sub-Deputy Magistrates placed under him in this way.

SANJAY,
June 1st, 1900.

15. The same paper writes as follows:—

The release of the Sandars.

The Sandars have been released. It is two months since they were unlawfully confined by the Magistrate. The Sandars are innocent people. It is we who agitated in their favour, and we are glad that they have at last been released. But justice has come to these innocent people very tardily, and this is a regret. Now that the Sandars have been proved innocent, who will be held responsible for their long confinement? The Sandar case proves the highhandedness and shortsightedness of the Magistrate. He harassed them with prosecutions. He charged them under various sections of the Indian Penal Code, but they have at last been proved innocent.

SANJAY.

16. The same paper fails to understand why the Magistrate is still holding

Morning court in Faridpur.

morning court. Is he still ill? If so, how is he doing his duties? It is no doubt creditable to work even in a bad state of health, but no one in bad health can be expected to do any work satisfactorily. Why does the Magistrate consult only his own convenience and not the convenience of the public?

PRATIVASI,
June 4th, 1900.

17. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 4th June writes as follows:—

The expression of regret in the Chapra case.

In the Chapra case, the Viceroy, the Lieutenant-Governor, and the Members of the House of Lords, all expressed their regret for the unlawful conduct of the offending officials. The Viceroy regretted the inadequacy of the punishment, but he did not wish to interfere with the Lieutenant-Governor's decision. So the matter has ended in an expression of regret, which has benefited us in no way.

It is said that Mr. Samuel Johnson was disgusted whenever any one expressed his regret or shed tears at the misery of any man. He did not like this paying a man by feeling. When the officials treat the natives most unjustly and cast a stain on the Government, the authorities satisfy themselves with expressing regret. We too are overjoyed at such expressions of regret. In the opinion of the Government, censure is sufficient for the purpose of restraining erring officials. But this is not right. Censure notwithstanding, justice has not been done in the Munda case. If censure and frowning could check the haughtiness of officials, proud of their race, we should not hear these reports of official oppression and highhandedness.

(d)—Education.

SANJIVANI,
May 31st, 1900.

18. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 31st May says that the post of Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University has become

The Vice-Chancellorship of the Calcutta University.

the monopoly of the Judges of the Calcutta High Court, and other people are scarcely appointed to it. Sir Alfred Croft, the late Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, was once appointed to the post. But though he was fully qualified for it, still his appointment was open to objection, on the ground that it was not safe to make

the head of the Education Department the head of the University. It is not right that the post of Vice-Chancellor should be a monopoly of the Judges of the High Court. There are many among the Fellows of the University fully qualified to hold that appointment. It is a mystery why Viceroys always appoint High Court Judges to the Vice-Chancellorship, disregarding the claims of other worthy men. Again, with the single exception of the Hon'ble Justice Gurudas Banerji, no native gentleman has ever occupied the post of Vice-Chancellor. Under these circumstances, it is hoped that Lord Curzon will this time nominate some old and experienced Fellow of the University to the post. Education, oratorical power, character and experience ought to be taken into consideration in selecting a person for the Vice-Chancellorship.

19. The *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 1st June has the following with reference to the proposed bifurcation of studies:—

The bifurcation scheme.

In the two proposed classes the second language and some other subsidiary subjects have been dispensed with. The Bengali shudders at the exclusion of literature. It was also on the ground of the partial exclusion of literature that Mr. Pedler's scheme of vernacular education—a scheme which is highly useful and beneficial—has been so strongly objected to. We, however, hail the proposed reform as an extremely desirable one. We ought to consider how far the new scheme will benefit us. The existing system is not a many-sided one. It imparts only a scientific or a literary education. It educates only the feelings. It is not practical. The existing theoretical system of education is not promoting national welfare. It is, on the other hand, disintegrating the caste system by levelling down all inequalities in work. It cannot be said that the existing theoretical and one-sided system of examination is not responsible for the moral and economical degradation of the country. Mr. Pedler's scheme will in some degree counteract the effects of this degradation by enabling the students to acquire a knowledge of engineering and the industries and cut out new paths for themselves. It will be a pity if any obstacle is allowed to stand in the way of the introduction of the new scheme.

The only objection to the new scheme is the exclusion of literature. But by the time a student is promoted to the second class, he has got a sufficient acquaintance with the literature required for every day use. It is necessary to carefully eschew literature from a course of technical education. Literature develops the feelings and damps activity. A man of feeling and sentiment cannot exercise his muscular energy in the proper directions. Mr. Pedler's scheme is calculated to make one energetic, active, hardworking, clever and practical. Of course, this change will not be brought about all at once: it is sure to be brought about slowly and steadily.

20. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 4th June writes that the Calcutta University has appointed Galbraith and Haughton's Manual of Astronomy as a text-book for the B. A. Examination, in the place of Mr. Parker's Elements

The astronomical text-book for the B. A. Examination.

of Astronomy. The writer is glad that the Calcutta University is desirous of removing the inconveniences of the students. But the Calcutta University ought to have more carefully considered the matter before making this change. So far as the writer is aware, the second edition of Parker's Elements of Astronomy was completed by the 13th March, and copies of this edition will soon reach Calcutta. Those who will appear in the B. A. Examination of 1901 are now in the fourth-year class. Many of them have purchased Parker's Astronomy, and it is being taught in many colleges. It is also doubtful whether Galbraith and Haughton's Astronomy will be available in the market as soon as the colleges re-open. The best thing to do would have been to make Parker's Elements of Astronomy an alternative text-book in the subject for 1901 as well as 1900.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

21. The *Bikash* [Barisal] of the 22nd May has the following:—

Lighting of Barisal town.

The lighting of Barisal town is not properly done. A rate-payer paying Rs. 33 to the municipality can get a lamp-post in front of his house. But it is not right, for

BANKURA DARPAN,
June 1st, 1900.

PRATIVASI,
June 4th, 1900.

BIKASH,
May 22nd, 1900.

that reason, to give any one a lamp-post when there is already a lamp-post near his house. The wards in which there are no well-to-do people are not well lighted. The road which runs towards Aswini Babu's house is well lighted, but the Bagura and Alakandar roads, in which there is so much traffic, are very badly lighted. In many instances people depositing the cost of lamp-post get no light.

CHARU MIHIR,
May 29th, 1900.

22. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 29th May says that Babu Sris Chandra Ghosh, Subdivisional Officer of Jamalpur, in the Mymensingh district, has adopted a clever plan for bringing the Jamalpur municipality within his clutches. Sris Babu has sent to Govern-

Babu Sris Chandra Ghosh, Sub-divisional Officer of Jamalpur, in the Mymensingh district.

ment a list of the names of certain persons for nomination as Commissioners; and the public are astonished to see the name of the Police Inspector of Jamalpur in this list. It makes one wonder to see even the shadow of a policeman in a municipality. This is not all. The time for appointing a new Chairman is drawing near, but the names of the selected Commissioners have not yet been gazetted. Still the Subdivisional Officer is exerting all his influence to have the Police Inspector elected as Chairman of the municipality. It has transpired that Sris Babu called some of the Commissioners to his house and requested them to vote in favour of the Inspector. It is not a very easy thing to disregard the request of a Subdivisional Officer. It is the express desire of the Government that its officers shall in no way interfere with municipal elections. Local Self-Government will become a farce at Jamalpur, if the Police Inspector is appointed Chairman of the municipality. The Police Inspector is already overburdened with his own duties and can not therefore be expected to perform the duties of a Chairman satisfactorily. Why, then, is Sris Babu so much anxious to go against public opinion, disregarding the express orders of the Government? Sris Babu will practically become the head of the municipality if he can get the Police Inspector appointed as its Chairman. Sris Babu has become very unpopular at Jamalpur for his habit of meddling with everything and his desire to make a display of his power.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 30th, 1900.

23. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-O-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 30th May complains of water-scarcity in Jejur, a village in the Hooghly district. There are few tanks in the village, and these tanks have dried up, only a little muddy water being left in them. The use of this muddy and unwholesome water has led to an outbreak of malaria. It is to be hoped that the Subdivisional Officer of Serampore will remove the water-scarcity of the village.

24. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 30th May complains that the male friends and relations of the Lady Doctor in charge of the female hospital at Barisal have free access to the hospital. This is not as it should be. If this is allowed, zanana ladies will not go to the hospital for treatment. Apartments should be set apart for the Lady Doctor.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,
May 30th, 1900.

25. The same paper complains of the present ferry arrangements at Barisal. There ought to be a signboard, showing the ferry rates for men and animals. It is complained that the ferry contractor is in the habit of ill-treating those who want to be ferried.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,

BHARAT MITRA,
June 4th, 1900.

26. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 4th June is sorry to hear that the Mathura Municipality intends to kill all dogs found straying in the streets. It is surely offensive to the Hindu mind to hear of the killing of any animal in Mathura city. It is strange that the above municipality is wounding the feelings of the Hindus.

Destruction of dogs by the Mathura Municipality.

(j)—Questions affecting the land.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 29th, 1900.

27. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 29th May has the following:—
The existing procedure for the levy of the road-cess on account of *lakhraj* lands, although extremely convenient from the standpoint of the *lakhirajdars*, entails on the

The road-cess on account of *lakhraj* land.

zamindars considerable loss and trouble and hardship. It is the zamindars who are directly responsible to Government for the due payment of the cess assessed on *lakhiraj* lands; but not being able to punctually realise the money from the owners of such lands, they are put to much trouble and expense. Government itself can easily and summarily recover the money by means of the certificate procedure, but it has given no such power to the zamindar, who must go to the Civil Court for the purpose. Litigation in the Civil Court is extremely troublesome, while certain recent rulings of the High Court have made matters worse for the zamindar who seeks a decree for recovering road-cess from a defaulting *lakhirajdar*. Now it has been ruled by the High Court that in order to show that the zamindar is entitled to such a decree, he must prove that the notice issued by the Collector fixing the road-cess assessments of the *lakhirajdars* has been served on them in the mufassal. How difficult it is to prove the service of this notice may be easily imagined. The peons, as a rule, do not go to the mufassal for the purpose of serving these notices, but effect their service from where they sit under the trees in the cutchery compound. The Collector's nazir, and not the zamindar, is the person who is required by the law to see that these notices are served on the *lakhirajdars*, but it is the zamindar who suffers if the nazir's peons do not serve the notices. In suits for the recovery of road-cess brought by the zamindar, the plea usually taken by the defendant *lakhirajdar* is that the valuation roll was not promulgated in the mufassal and that he had no notice of it. The law requires the zamindar to prove the service of the notice, but if the peons, as is often the case, had never taken the trouble to go to the mufassal for the purpose, where would he find witnesses to speak to the service? He is therefore obliged to procure false witnesses. These false witnesses, (lowclass men, as a rule,) break down under cross-examination, with the result that the zamindar's suit is dismissed. It is clear therefore that the existing arrangements for levying the road-cess on account of *lakhiraj* lands occasion great hardship to the zamindars. Government realises its own dues from the zamindars with the greatest ease, but in seeking to recover their dues from the *lakhirajdars* the zamindars have to make heavy expenses and resort to dishonest practices, and yet they meet with failure in not a few instances. Does it not behove Government to provide a remedy for this by legislation?

If the Court dismisses the zamindar's suit against the *lakhirajdar*, the former is left without any remedy or relief and must go on paying the cess payable by the latter who gains by the law's intricacies. Under these circumstances, it is certainly the duty of Government to so amend the law that the zamindar may be enabled to easily recover from the *lakhirajdar* the amount of the road-cess for which he is justly liable.

28. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 30th May writes as follows:—

Levy of the landlord's fee under the Bengal Tenancy Act.

Under the Bengal Tenancy Act, if a holder of a permanent tenure transfers it by sale, he is required to deposit a certain sum called "the landlord's fee." The deposit of this fee is all that is needed to make the deed-of-sale valid and the transferee a real proprietor of the tenure.

Unless this fee is deposited, the Court will not recognise any such deed as valid, and it will not be registered in the registry office; and even if it is registered, it will be null and void. The High Court has recently ruled to this effect.

The question now is—Is it necessary to pay the landlord's fee in the case of a deed-of-sale in respect of a share in a permanent tenure? Section 17 of the Tenancy Act says: "Subject to the provisions of section 88, the foregoing section shall apply to the transfer of, or succession to, a share in a permanent tenure." According to section 88, a division of a tenure or holding or of the rent payable in respect thereof, shall not be binding on the landlord unless it is made with his consent in writing.

If on the transfer of a share of a holding, there be not a formal division of the land and the rent, the purchaser will be regarded as one of the raiyats, and will be liable jointly with the other raiyats for the rent.

In one of the rules framed by the Bengal Government under the Tenancy Act, it is laid down that no registry office shall accept the landlord's fee in respect of a deed of sale regarding a share of a holding which is executed

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without the consent in writing of the landlord. But in such cases provision is made for charging the landlord's fee in the Civil Courts.

The result is the registry offices do not charge the landlord's fee in those cases in which it is charged by the Civil Courts. If the practice of the Civil Courts in this matter is consistent with the law, the rule framed by the Government must be pronounced illegal.

Government has recently abolished the old rule, and directed the registry offices to levy the landlord's fee even in respect of a deed of sale regarding a share of a holding.

The question now is, are the deeds registered under the old rules valid or not? In certain Courts of the Barisal District objection has been raised to the validity of such deeds. It has been held by certain Courts in the Perozpur sub-division that when the Sub-Registrar had registered the deeds without levying the landlord's fee the deeds must be regarded as invalid under the law, and that the transferee cannot be regarded as having acquired any rights on the strength of such deeds. If the High Court affirms this decision of the Perozpur Courts, the parties to whom transfers of shares of holdings were made under the old rules will be subjected to great loss.

Government should therefore either authorise Sub-Registrars to levy the landlord's fee in respect of such deeds within a prescribed time or pass a law validating such deeds.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

CHARU MIHIR,
May 29th, 1900.

29. The *Charu Mihir*, [Mymensingh] of the 29th May says that the road which runs from the other side of the river Ganjina to village Sehara meets the Mymensingh Jagannathganj rail road at a place adjacent to the Mymensingh railway station. The passenger traffic along this road is very large. But the road always remains blocked with railway carriages, causing much inconvenience to way-farers. The inconvenience may be removed if an over-bridge is constructed over this road.

CHARU MIHIR.

30. The same paper has the following:—

The Porabari steamer station, in the Mymensingh district.

There is a steamer station called Porabari on the other side of the river Jamuna and six miles west of Tangail, in the Mymensingh district, but there is no jetty or other arrangement for alighting from and getting into the steamer. Some time ago, a flat was kept on the river for the convenience of passengers, but it has now been removed. At present the steamer remains in the middle of the river and the boat of the Agent brings the passengers ashore. But the passengers, and the female passengers in particular, feel the greatest difficulty in getting out of and getting into the boat. Some think that as some of the steamer agents gain something in the shape of boat hire from the passengers, they purposely make no permanent arrangement. We draw the attention of the Mail Agent to this matter.

KHULNA,
May 31st, 1900.

31. The *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 31st May has the following:—

The Bengal Central Railway.

The fares of the first and second classes in the Bengal Central Railway were half anna and one anna per mile, respectively, before the line came under the management of the Company. But from the 1st May 1899 the fares have been raised to three pice and one anna and-a-half per mile, respectively. The fare from Khulna to Calcutta for a single journey, second class, was formerly Rs. 3-7 and the fare for a return journey was Rs. 4-9-6. But now Rs. 5-1-9 is charged for a single second class and Rs. 6-13-9 for a return journey. Ordinary return tickets were formerly available for six days, but under the management of the Company they are now available for only four days. In no other railway are return tickets available for so short a time. Civil Courts often remain closed for four days at a time, and so a person, taking a return ticket, cannot pass the whole term of that holiday in one place. The fare for an intermediate class return was Rs. 3-7 before, but under the new management Rs. 3-13-6 is charged for it. In other railways six-monthly return tickets are not available for a less distance than 130 miles. Khulna is only 109 miles from Calcutta; but the Bengal Central Railway authorities charge upon 130 miles for a six-monthly

return ticket. Is this fair? We hope that the Agent of the Railway will kindly consider these matters.

32. The same paper complains that communications in Satkhira in the Khulna district are very unsatisfactory. There is no easy communication by boat between Khulna and Satkhira. The railway runs up to Jadavpur, and the rest of the journey has to be done partly by boat and partly by bullock cart. The steamer service between Jadavpur and Satkhira has been discontinued on account of the shallowness of the water in the river. The funds of the District Board are too limited to improve communications in the subdivision. The Road Cess Fund should be utilised for this purpose.

33. A correspondent writes in the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 1st June:—

Grievances of third class passengers at the Howrah station.

On the 30th May last I went to the Howrah station to see my daughter off. The passage leading to the platform for third class passengers is so narrow and so overcrowded that middle class men who are compelled to travel by that class feel the greatest difficulty in making their way through it. We paid a bribe of 8 annas to a constable, and by that means made a way for ourselves; but we were compelled to leave our female relative standing at the gate for female passengers. The plague doctors were examining the passengers in a leisurely fashion. Imagine the feelings of a man, in this hot weather in the midst of a crowd and in anxiety for his female relative, surrounded on all sides by English and native constables. This inconvenience may be removed if a separate gate is provided for the examination of respectable third class passengers. And is it at all advisable to place constables near the gate intended for female passengers? The railway coolies are also most oppressive. Sometimes they compel passengers to pay one rupee for one luggage. The relatives of native passengers are not allowed to the platform without a ticket, but it is not so as regards Europeans. Will not the Agent of the Company remove these grievances of third class passengers?

The editor thus comments on the letter:—Is it not the duty of the railway authorities to remove the grievances of natives, whose money is maintaining the line? It will not take much time to remove these grievances if the authorities keep a strict eye over the doings of their subordinates. We hope that the Agent of the Company will kindly enquire into the matter and lose no time in redressing these grievances.

(h)—General.

34. The following appears over the signature of Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore in the new Bengali newspaper *Prabhat* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May:—

A pauranik simile.

The gates of Rurki College have been closed against Bengalis, and India fares no better in Cooper's Hill College. We are all subjects of the Queen, but some of us are very fair, and some of us very black.

It is not that our rulers do not love us. They rebuke us for neglecting technical education, for being indifferent to practical training. This leads us to hope that the Government is really anxious to see us provided with technical education. But when we are driven from educational institutions and come home crestfallen many thoughts arise in our mind. A subject people is and may be insulted in many ways, but at school all had been so long considered to be equal. It is said that to train and educate black men is the "white man's burden." But is the whiteman now afraid of what he has done? Will the white-handed Bharati (goddess of learning) banish the black bee from her grove of lilies?

When Dronacharyya was teaching the Kauravas and Pandavas the art of warfare, Ekalavya, a gifted young non-Aryan, came to him to learn that art. But the gates of the Military Cooper's Hill of those days were closed against the black non-Aryan boy. But there is one defect in our simile. Dronacharyya was paid by the Kauravas and Pandavas, whereas Cooper's Hill College is maintained at the cost of the famine-stricken India.

When, after being insulted, Ekalavya earned by his own efforts a proficiency in the art of wielding arms, he had to cut off a finger at the request of

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Dronacharyya. This disabled him to some extent, and the Kauravas and Pandavas remained unrivalled in the art of warfare. Like Ekalavya, we have paid our *guru dakshina*, our dues to our preceptors; we have cut off a finger. Even when we pass competitive examinations with Europeans, we must not aspire to hold equally high posts with them. Our pay has been reduced by one-third. But let our pay be reduced; let us not be appointed Commissioners; let us not have the opportunity of gaining equality with you. When you are paid by India, how do you consider yourselves justified in depriving us of educational facilities?

Even a subject people can feel an insult; and no law, however severe, can remove the pain that insult causes. The authorities are offended even when a comparison is made between British and any other rule. Let a school-book contain the praise of the rule of Ram or of Akbar, and a watchful official will smell sedition in it. But comparison is natural, and it is not easy to control the desire to make a comparison. During the Musalman rule, there *was* hatred between Hindus and Musalmans, but that hatred was like the hatred between the Kauravas and the Pandavas. It was fierce and openly expressed. Dronacharyya loved the Pandavas better than the Kauravas, but they were taught in the same school and drilled on the same ground.

But the difference between ourselves and our rulers is like the difference between Ekalavya and the Kauravas. We are not hated, but despised. The rulers may not grant the subject people equal rights with themselves; but it is too great an insult to be deprived of even equal educational rights with them.

The policy of driving the thin end of the wedge is being followed in every department of education. It has been tried in the Engineering Department, and may also be tried in the Medical. Clouds are threateningly thickening in the north-east of the Education Department, and a destructive storm may rise at any moment. We should be prepared for the storm and any revolution that may be brought about. There is no help like self-help. If the milkman does not give the cow a feed, the cow must feed herself. If she gets no food, why, she must die.

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35. The same paper fails to understand why Europeans and Eurasians are being so increasingly appointed in the Military Department. There are some experienced native clerks in this Department who have not been able to draw the pay which it is proposed to give to Europeans and Eurasians. This is not said out of spite. There is nothing to be sorry for or surprised at in this. No one can go against destiny.

PRABHAT.

36. The same paper writes as follows:—

Government's attitude towards
the vernacular press.

The vernacular newspaper in India labours under a great difficulty and disadvantage. In those countries where the newspaper had its birth and where at the present moment it possesses almost unlimited power there is one language, one nation, one national ideal and one uniform effort and struggle for improvement. Newspapers are published for the good of the sovereign and the subject alike. That is not the case in India. Here there are different races and different languages in the different provinces. The rulers are a people different from the ruled. If you have to make anything known to the rulers, you must speak, you must write, in their language. But that is a language with which the great majority of the subject people are not acquainted. A few Indians have distinguished themselves by conducting newspapers in the English language. A newspaper written in English becomes easily known to the rulers, while a vernacular paper is to them a sealed book and can be made intelligible to them only by means of translations. There is a more serious disadvantage which the native newspaper has to contend against. For want of official favour and patronage, vernacular newspapers possess no prestige and command no influence. Government has always viewed them with displeasure and some suspicion. Government believes that native newspapers are not its well-wishers, and publish reports and statements which are calculated to do harm to it. This is why, when laws are passed or punishments inflicted, they are all directed against the vernacular newspapers. The Vernacular Press Act was passed in 1878. Newspapers written in English were excluded from its purview. Lord Ripon, that

just and noble minded statesman and friend of India, repealed that Act. After that came the trial of the leading Bengali newspaper of Calcutta for sedition. It was only the other day that a number of vernacular papers were tried and punished for sedition in Bombay and other places. The sedition law was made more rigorous after that. This, too, was aimed against the vernacular newspapers.

37. Referring to the complaint of a correspondent that the complaints against the postmaster of Rayerkuti, substantiated by the local public, have not been taken into consideration by the Postmaster-General, the *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 30th May writes that the object of the post office is to consult the convenience of the public. The postal authorities should therefore carefully enquire into all complaints made against postal officials. The preferring of serious charges against a postmaster means that the local public are not satisfied with him, and this fact alone ought to justify the transfer of that postmaster.

A postal complaint.

38. The *Sanjivani* of the 31st May says that Government imposed the zamindari dâk cess at a time when there were no good roads in the country and there were but few post offices. But that is no longer the case. Communication has now become easy, and there is a sufficient number of post offices yielding a large revenue every year, and yet Government has not repealed or reduced the cess. The British Indian Association has repeatedly asked Government to publish a statement of the total amount levied every year in the shape of that cess and of the surplus left after meeting all necessary expenses. But Government, though admitting the reasonableness of the prayer, has not yet published such a statement. In a resolution published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 16th April 1892, it was stated that a statement of the receipts and disbursements in connection with the zamindari dâk would be published every year by the Board of Revenue. But though eight years have passed away since that Resolution was published, no such statement has been published.

The zamindari dâk cess.

The zamindari dâk passes along certain routes and a cess is levied from zamindars for its maintenance. But ordinary mails are also carried along these routes and yield Government a large income. In common fairness the income so derived should be deducted from the total expenditure incurred at present for the maintenance of the zamindari dâk, and only the balance should be levied from the zamindars. The fact is that a larger number of persons is now employed than is required for the carrying of the legitimate zamindari dâk and these surplus people are employed in conveying ordinary mails. But these superfluous employes ought to be paid by the State and the zamindari dâk cess ought to be proportionately reduced. The British Indian Association has submitted a memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor praying that a statement may be published every year of the annual receipts and disbursements in every district under the head of the zamindari dâk cess. It is hoped that Sir John Woodburn will see that the Government's order of 1892 is no longer disobeyed by the District Collectors, the Divisional Commissioners, and the Board of Revenue.

39. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st June thus comments on the Government order regarding the employment of Eurasians in the Military Department:—

Employment of Eurasians in the Military Department.

The sacred promise of the Queen is being violated at every step and is ignored whenever the time for its fulfilment comes. Still we must say that the Queen's Proclamation is neither a play nor a joke. It is a royal gift, a charter of our existence in India, the foundation of our hopes and aspirations. It is on the strength of this Proclamation that we agitate and petition. Those who disregard it, disobey the Queen and act against her wish. They are enemies of Great Britain as well as India. They are enemies of the rulers as well as of the ruled. These men should not be entrusted with the Government of Provinces.

It is a regret, however, that even those who fully appreciate the seriousness of the Proclamation and are quite ready to honour it, sometimes fail to give effect to it when they are required to do so. Let a ruler once come under the influence of the official clique at Simla, let him once enjoy the charm of

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Simla life, and he is sure to change his opinion. Take Lord Curzon, for instance. He is a wise, experienced, learned and sympathetic ruler. It is a great pity that even such a ruler should show partiality and fail to grant even our most legitimate prayers.

Lord Curzon gave a fitting reply to the deputation of the Imperial Anglo-Indian Association, consisting of Eurasians of all shades, who waited upon his Lordship with their numerous demands and prayers. But the Viceroy has now gone against the spirit of his own reply. According to his recent order, Eurasians will be appointed to high posts in the public service without passing any University examination. Without passing any examination they will receive salaries which Indians do not expect to get even after passing examinations. Is this not partiality? If Lord Curzon's acts had been as impartial as his words are sweet, we would not have had to regret in this way. It is not words, but acts that can satisfy us.

The Eurasians enjoy many advantages. The Arms Act does not apply to them. They receive special favour so far as the appointment to the public service is concerned. Even in jails they live comfortably. The more they are favoured the more favour do they want. And the Government directly and indirectly encourages them. Let the head of the Government consider whether this is or is not a sign of its weakness. The natives, of course, are not satisfied with this showing of favour to the Eurasians. When the Government shows so much favour to the Eurasians it is easy to understand that it shows much greater favour to the Europeans.

That this is the case is proved by many instances. Take the case of the Civil Service Examination. If examination is the only means of testing the qualifications of a candidate, make this examination as stiff as you please, but let all people enjoy equal rights of appearing in the examination. This is all that we want from a just and impartial Government. Where is your justification for appointing so many Europeans to the public service? Let us know this and we shall be satisfied.

40. The same paper writes as follows:—

Sir Antony MacDonnell in the Cawnpore riot. It is superfluous to say that Sir Antony MacDonnell has earned great popularity since his appointment as Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces. It does not, however, appear that he has wisely dealt with the plague riots in Cawnpore and other places. The Muharrum festival closely followed the Cawnpore riot. During this festival 75 distinguished residents of the town were made to serve as special constables. They had to work six hours every day, and during the last two days they had to work more than 14 hours a day. They were under a Sub-Inspector, who treated them harshly and made them work harder than paid constables. We fail to understand why Sir Antony MacDonnell is courting unpopularity towards the end of his term of office.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

MEDINI BANDHAV,
May 30th, 1900.

41. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 30th May learns from the

Distress in the Midnapore khas mahal.

Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika that the distress of the raiyats of the Midnapore khas-mahal is daily increasing. They are half-fed, and some of them have to earn their livelihood by begging. The condition of the following persons in the Naruamutha pargana is most lamentable:—

Village Kumardauri.—Gopi Das, Tarak Das, Hara Jana, Prahlad Das, Gurai Bera, Manu Santh, Rajan Patnaiyak, and Durgaram Singh.

Village Kismat Patna.—Biru Bera, Lakshan Sau, Khudiram Barik.

Village Utbadale.—Krishna Maiti and the wife of Sadhu Patnaiyak.

There is no hope for the raiyats of the Midnapore khasmahal unless the Government comes to their rescue.

42. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 30th May has the following:—

The famine.

In spite of the efforts of the Government to save human life, many have died and are still dying. Why are these people dying? People apply to Government for relief only when they become

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perfectly helpless. When their stock of grains is exhausted they live upon leaves and roots. When even these are exhausted they starve, and then hungry and thirsty, they leave their homes and go to the Government relief works. On the Government relief works these people, hungry and emaciated as they are, have to work very hard for a very small remuneration. No one can earn more than six pice a day. The women and children earn even less. Few women can earn five pice a day and children generally earn two pice a day. As a rule, however, these people are so weak and emaciated that they cannot work as hard as they are required, and cannot therefore earn even the minimum wages sanctioned by the Famime Code. The pittance these people earn is hardly sufficient to procure them even the barest necessities of life.

The work, which these people are required to do, is very hard. Even women and children are required to break stones, a labour to which they have not been accustomed. In jails breaking stones is regarded as a form of punishment, and it is to this breaking of stones that even weak and emaciated women and children are put.

In the Bombay Presidency the labourers on relief works are earning not more than four or five pice a day. It is needless to say that this small remuneration cannot procure them a good meal. They are half-starved and have to work hard. The consequence is that cholera has broken out among the labourers on the relief works. The outbreak of cholera could have been prevented if the Government had not compelled the labourers to work so hard and had remunerated them more liberally. But the financial condition of the Government is not satisfactory, and it is remunerating the labourers in a most miserly style.

It is strange that the famine-stricken people are not enjoying a hundredth part of the comfort and convenience which criminals in jails enjoy. Criminals reside in palatial buildings and do not work for more than eight hours a day, receive excellent medical treatment when ill, and are much better fed than the labourers on relief works, who live in huts and break stones the whole day for a pittance of four or five pice per day.

The outbreak of cholera in the relief camps has created a panic among their inmates, and many have gone away, determined not to return on any account. This has increased the number of deaths among the famine-stricken. But the critical stage has not yet arrived. There is still something left in the homes of some. The famine will assume a most serious aspect two months hence, and in July and August, the number of labourers on relief works will most probably rise to a crore. To feed them the Government will have to spend about eight lakhs of rupees every day. How will the Government meet the cost of this relief on a gigantic scale?

The Government hopes that if this distress is tided over, next year there will be abundant crops, and people will breathe more freely. But what if there is a failure of crops next year? The raiyats have been ruined, and their cattle and seeds have all been destroyed. They will require substantial help in buying cattle and seeds. But whence will that help come?

43. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st June has the following:—

Complaint against the management of relief works.

Every evening the inmates of the relief camps have to go to the shops attached to the camps to purchase the necessities of life. It is, however, provided in the Famime Code that the inmates of the relief camps should be provided by the Government with six *chitaks* of rice and *dal*, salt, tamarind, sugar, and vegetables. The Government, however, has now discontinued the making of this supply, and is paying the labourers in cash. This is causing great hardship to them. No arrangements are also made to supply the inmates with fuel. Sometimes they cannot cook food for want of fuel, and have to eat uncooked rice. Over and above this, there is the "penal minimum." During famine time an expense of about two annas and-a-half is incurred in feeding a prisoner every day, but a labourer on a relief work cannot earn more than one anna and-a-half a day. According to the Famime Code each inmate of a relief camp is to get a blanket, but blankets are not distributed in many places.

Lord Curzon in the famine.

44. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 4th June says that Lord Curzon is leaving no stone unturned in his effort to help the famine-stricken people of India. He has

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June 1st, 1900.

BHARAT MITRA,
June 4th, 1900.

telegraphed his thanks to the American Doctor who has come over to India to help the starving people of famine-stricken India. He also said that he was willing to provide any one who doubted the severity of the famine, with a railway ticket that he might go and see things for himself.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BIKASH,
May 22nd, 1900.

45. The *Bikash* [Barisal] of the 22nd May has the following:—

The *Kaisar-i-Hind*.

As the monkeys are pleased with plantains so there are a class of men in this country who are pleased with titles, and who worship the givers of titles. The country is already full of landless Rajas and Maharajas, and Lord Curzon has imported a new kind of plantain from England called the *Kaisar-i-Hind*, and means it for the gratification of this race of monkeys in this country. We do not know how much money will have to be spent and how much flattery and importunity will have to be employed in order to get these plantains. The plan is a very good one. The Government means to get its work done by this gift of new plantains.

PRABHAT,
May 23rd, 1900.

46. The *Prabhat* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May contains an article on Indian poverty over the signature of Mr. R. C. Dutt, in which the writer repeats the views which were expressed by him in his inaugural address as President of the Indian National Congress.

Mr. R. C. Dutt on poverty and famine in India.

PALLIVASI,
May 30th, 1900.

47. A correspondent, writing in the *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 30th May, says that the Empress' birthday was celebrated with great pomp in the house of Babu Satkari Haldar, Munsif of Katwa, in the Burdwan district. There was a procession carrying the portrait of the Queen and chanting her praise. All the high officials of the station—pleaders, mukhtars and respectable residents—joined the procession.

A birthday procession in Katwa.

HITAVADI,
June 1st, 1900.

48. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st June writes that, with the consent of the Chaplain of the Holy Trinity Church of Karachi, some European soldiers burnt Kruger in effigy in the church. A church is a place of worship, and anger and hatred, envy and revenge, should never be displayed within its precincts. The conduct of the Chaplain of the Holy Trinity Church has, without doubt, pained all true Christians.

Desecration of a church in Karachi.

URIYA PAPERS.

SAMBALPUR
HATAISHINI,
May 16th, 1900.

49. The *Sambalpur Hataishini* [Bamra] of the 16th May is sorry to notice that the Ranis of Manipur, who are now at Sylhet, are in abject poverty, and that no arrangements have been made for their maintenance. The writer observes that Government should not be indifferent to this matter, and should help them in the interests of public policy and morality.

The Manipur Ranis.

SAMVADVAHIKA,
May 16th, 1900.

50. The *Samvadvahika* [Balasore] of the 16th May is informed that there is a great want of silver coin in the market, and that this disturbs the transactions of business-men in every way.

Want of silver coin in the market.

UTKALDIPIKA,
May 19th, 1900.

51. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 19th May is sorry to learn that cow-pox is raging virulently in Madhupur, Olas and Sargarah parganas, of the Cuttack district, and that a large number of cattle have died of the same. The writer requests the inhabitants of those parganas to take the assistance of the Veterinary Surgeon, who is practising in Cuttack.

Cow-pox in the Cuttack district.

ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSAN,
June 1st, 1900.

52. The *Paridarsan* [Sylhet] of the 1st June has the following:—

Cattle poisoning in some villages in Sylhet.

On the 27th of April last three butchers were flaying alive an ox belonging to Lochan Mali of mauza Supatala in Sylhet, and two of the culprits were arrested redhanded. The facts of the case are these:—Before this occurrence the said butchers used to administer poison to the cattle in Supatala

and the neighbouring villages for the sake of the hides. The people being much oppressed by them laid a trap for their arrest. On the day of the occurrence Lochan Mali sent his son to graze his ox in the field, when three men, with *lathis* and knives, came there, and began to flay the ox alive. The boy ran to his father and informed him of this, but Lochan could not go near them, as one of the butchers began to shoot at him. Lochan cried for help, at which some people came to his assistance, and succeeded in arresting two of the culprits. They were taken to the zamindar, who handed them over to the police. But we have been informed that the police has let off the offenders for want of evidence.

53. A correspondent of the same paper says that an officer of the Forest Department is committing much oppression on the people at Barmachal (Suravai) in Sylhet. He is arresting even those who fetch bamboos and firewood from the Dastana mahal and from the settled lands in Bagicha. He also arrests those who pass through the Local Board road with bamboos and firewood in their possession.

54. The same paper has the following:—

Some recent transfers and promotions of educational officers in Sylhet.

Babu Bihari Lal Dhar, second grade Sub-Inspector of Schools, Maulvi Bazar, in Sylhet, has been promoted to a first-grade Sub-Inspectorship and transferred to Silchar. The second-grade Sub-Inspectors Babu Gopi Charan Datta of Silchar and Babu Jagat Chandra Ghosh of Maulvi Bazar, both senior to Bihari Babu, have been transferred to Maulvi Bazar and Dhubri, respectively. Instead of rewarding Gopi Babu for his efficient services by promoting him to a first-grade Sub-Inspectorship, the Government has practically punished him by transferring him to Maulvi Bazar. Mr. Wilson, the late Director of Public Instruction, Assam, was so much pleased with Gopi Babu, that he once offered him a Deputy Inspectorship, which Gopi Babu, for some special reason, declined to accept. Mr. Booth has done great injustice to Gopi Babu by not promoting him to the first-grade. Again, two second-grade Sub-Inspectorships fell vacant, and Mr. Booth appointed a clerk of his office and a teacher to these posts, disregarding the claims of Maulvi Ajadali Chaudhuri, the most senior among the third-grade Sub-Inspectors and who acted twice in the second grade, when Mr. Wilson was the Director.

PARIDARSAK,
June 1st, 1900.

PARIDARSAK.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 9th June, 1900.

